REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice.

The claims have been amended responsive to the claim objections.

The specification has been amended, including correcting a typographic error in the paragraph spanning pages 36-37. The correction is consistent with original claim 5 and the remainder of the specification.

The claims have also been amended to remedy the stated basis of rejection under Section 101.

Claims 1-9 were rejected as anticipated by KAWADA 2002/0001385.

The previously pending claims have been amended to patentably recite the present invention. New claims have been added.

A review of the invention will prove useful.

As per the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION section, the invention provides an information reproducing program for obtaining and reproducing broadcasted information including pieces of enciphered material information which are temporally parallel to each other, and an information recording medium on which the information reproducing program is recorded. The present invention individually controls access (decipher) to

these temporally parallel enciphered material, which gives the copyright holder further control of copyright material.

As per the DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART section, copyrighted audiovisual enciphered material (movies and music) are distributed through the Internet and stored in, e.g., a personal computer, for use.

As per page 3, beginning at line 9, the distributed material may include a plurality of videos simultaneously corresponding to one story and temporally parallel with each other. For example, distribution of one movie may include 1) a main video which shows the entire scene of the movie, 2) a further temporally parallel video corresponding to a scene which is seen from the visual line of an actor taking part in the scene, 3) a still further temporally parallel video corresponding to the scene seen from the visual line of an actress taking part in the scene. Other examples include caption information for captions of different languages corresponding to the one movie.

The present invention individually controls access to these temporally parallel videos with allows the copyright control to be individually controlled.

The present invention includes an information reproducing apparatus for simultaneously reproducing temporally parallel enciphered material from a recording unit such as a hard disk drive 15 etc. The inventive reproducing apparatus includes a deciphering information obtaining device such as a modem unit 8

etc., for obtaining deciphering information for deciphering the pieces of enciphered material information, and a deciphering device such as a right management protection unit 9 etc., for deciphering the material information corresponding to the obtained deciphering information on the basis of the obtained deciphering information, thereby allowing deciphering and simultaneous reproduction of temporally parallel material.

With reference to the drawing figures and the DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT section, Figure 1 shows the logical format of audiovisual (AV) information is recorded on the inventive apparatus's hard disk and protection chip (the copyright license information is physically recorded in the protection chip). AV stream information AVD which is the AV information itself distributed and recorded on the hard disk 1, and license management information CIF serving as information for managing license states of pieces of material information in the recorded AV information. Also, as shown in Figure 1, the license management information CIF is constituted by license identifiers LER1 to LERn respectively corresponding to the various pieces of material information (the pieces of material information are independently enciphered as described above) constituting the AV information recorded on the hard disk 1 to identify pieces of license information (stored in the protection chip) used when the pieces of material information are independently deciphered.

As illustrated, n license identifiers respectively correspond to n pieces of license information for deciphering the n pieces of material information constituting the AV information recorded on the hard disk. The pieces of license information are pieces of information serving as deciphering key used to decipher the pieces of material information recorded in an enciphering state when the pieces of material information are deciphered in reproduction. Via the deciphering information obtaining part, the pieces of license information are purchased and delivered independently of the AV information and stored in the protection chip.

Thus, as per Figures 1-2, the inventive information reproducing apparatus includes a receiver (2, 11) for receiving audiovisual information from a broadcast source; a first recording medium (15) connected to the receiver to accept the received audiovisual information and for storing the received audiovisual information as pieces of enciphered material information, the stored pieces of enciphered material information comprising temporally parallel contents, the pieces of enciphered material information being independently enciphered.

There is also a deciphering information obtaining part (8) connected to an input port for receiving plural deciphering information, each of the plural deciphering information respectively corresponding to a different one of the stored pieces of enciphered material information, and stored, e.g., on a

protection chip (15A). A deciphering device (9) applies each of the plural deciphering information to the corresponding different ones of the stored pieces of enciphered material information for simultaneously deciphering the corresponding plural ones of the stored pieces of enciphered material information to generate audiovisual contents by simultaneously reproducing a plurality of the temporal parallel contents from the pieces of enciphered material information recorded on the recording unit.

The invention, as now claimed, is patentable over KAWADA.

KAWADA does teach a recording apparatus for recording movie content onto a DVD where the movie content is encrypted using a different encryption method depending on whether the DVD is intended for consumer use or industrial use. Thus, there are two types of DVDs. A first type of DVD is for consumer use and a second type of DVD is for industrial use.

As per KAWADA claim 1, there is disclosed using an accepting unit to accept from a user an indication whether the optical disk is intended for consumer use or industrial use. Based on the accepted indication, an encrypting unit encrypts the digital content, using a different encryption method, as either the first or second type of DVD.

However, the recited invention of claim 1 is not taught or suggested.

KAWADA does not teach or suggest an information reproducing apparatus for generating audiovisual contents by simultaneously reproducing a plurality of pieces of enciphered material information.

KAWADA does not teach or suggest a recording unit on which the plurality of the pieces of enciphered material information respectively having the audiovisual contents temporally parallel to each other are respectively independently enciphered and recorded.

KAWADA does not teach or suggest an obtaining device for obtaining plural deciphering information, each of the obtained plural deciphering information for deciphering a corresponding different one of the pieces of enciphered material information.

KAWADA does not teach or suggest a deciphering device for simultaneously deciphering the different ones of the enciphered material information, from the recording unit, on the basis of the obtained corresponding plural deciphering information to generate the audiovisual contents by simultaneously reproducing a plurality of the temporal parallel contents from the pieces of material information recorded on the recording unit.

The same features in claims 7 and 8 are missing from KAWADA.

As per claim 10, additionally, KAWADA does not teach or suggest a receiver for receiving audiovisual information from a broadcast source, a first recording medium connected to the receiver to accept the received audiovisual information and for storing the received audiovisual information as pieces of enciphered material information, the stored pieces of enciphered material information comprising temporally parallel contents, the pieces of enciphered material information being independently enciphered.

As discussed above, nor does KAWADA teach or suggest a deciphering information obtaining part connected to an input port for receiving plural deciphering information, each of the plural deciphering information respectively corresponding to a different one of the stored pieces of enciphered material information.

KAWADA also does not teach or suggest a deciphering device applying each of the plural deciphering information to the corresponding different ones of the stored pieces of enciphered material information for simultaneously deciphering the corresponding plural ones of the stored pieces of enciphered material information to generate audiovisual contents by simultaneously reproducing a plurality of the temporal parallel contents from the pieces of enciphered material information recorded on the recording unit.

As per claim 11, KAWADA does not teach or suggest, wherein, the deciphering information obtaining part stores the

received plural deciphering information in a second recording medium, and the deciphering device is connected to the first and second recording medium to respectively obtain the stored pieces of enciphered material information and the corresponding plural deciphering information.

As per claim 12, KAWADA does not teach or suggest, wherein, the deciphering information obtaining part is configured to obtain selected ones of the plural deciphering information independently and at a time later than the receiver receiving the audiovisual information from a broadcast source, the selected ones of the plural deciphering information being stored on the second recording medium.

As per claims 13-14, KAWADA does not teach or suggest such an apparatus, further wherein, the first recording medium is a hard drive, and the second recording medium is a protection chip.

Thus, each of the claims is believed patentable.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of $200 for the extra independent claim added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

received plural deciphering information in a second recording medium, and the deciphering device is connected to the first and second recording medium to respectively obtain the stored pieces of enciphered material information and the corresponding plural deciphering information.

As per claim 12, KAWADA does not teach or suggest, wherein, the deciphering information obtaining part is configured to obtain selected ones of the plural deciphering information independently and at a time later than the receiver receiving the audiovisual information from a broadcast source, the selected ones of the plural deciphering information being stored on the second recording medium.

As per claims 13-14, KAWADA does not teach or suggest such an apparatus, further wherein, the first recording medium is a hard drive, and the second recording medium is a protection chip.

Thus, each of the claims is believed patentable.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of $200 for the extra independent claim added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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